

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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EUROPE - A VOLUNTARY BOND OF THE FREE *

During the great debate in the Austrian parliament on the European Free Trade Association, the spokesman of the Socialist Party, Karl Czernetz, made the following remarks:

The unification of Europe is historically necessary, and it is possible. But this unification cannot be brought about under all circumstances, in any case and at any price. It must not be unification under the rule of one group nor must it be unification under the rule of anyone nation. European unification must come about in freedom, and voluntarily.

That means that Europe faces very difficult problems. Europe is a torn and divided continent. On its ground the world powers face each other; this Europe is made up of different structures and divers political ideas. All that explains the difficult process of getting together and growing together.

The creation of the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) were basic efforts of decisive historic importance. However, all EEC members joined that organization in the belief that this first nucleus would be expanded into a growing greater Europe. Necessary as this effort was, it is just as necessary to see the fact that the nations which joined in the EEC have remained isolated as a bloc and erected a fence against others. This has led to the necessity for the others also to join an organization.

We favor an all-embracing solution for Europe's unification. But when the EEC looks forward to special solutions, then the outsiders must have their own organization to be in a position to negotiate as a group with the EEC. The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is nothing but an association offering its hand to achieve the great unification of the European nations.

Neutrality: Not a Mere Matter of Convenience

Austria's neutrality is military neutrality and nothing more. But in this connection it must be pointed out that the EEC agreement contains no withdrawal clause. Now if the "Six" (EEC), forced through whatever circumstances, should in future follow a policy which engenders involvement in war, we as a member state would be right in the middle of such

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PRESIDENT ADOLF SCHAERF - 70 YEARS OLD



Austrian President Adolf Schaerf was born April 20, 1890, in Nikolsburg, Moravia (now Czechoslovakia). His parents, both Vienna-born, returned to the Austrian capital in 1899. His father was a glass blower. Adolf Schaerf attended high school in Vienna and later studied at the University of Vienna taking his degree in law. He worked his way through college by tutoring and doing clerical work in his older brother's law office.

During his undergraduate student days, Schaerf founded a Socialist students' club and during his studies at the university became an active member of the Socialist movement. He participated in World War I first as an enlisted man and later as an officer. After the war, he was appointed secretary to the first president of the Republic of Austria, Karl Seitz who later held office as mayor of Vienna. Schaerf has been a member of the Socialist Party's executive committee since 1918 when he became secretary of the Association of Social Democratic Members of Parliament.

In 1933, Dr. Schaerf was sent to the Federal Council (provincial chamber of the Austrian parliament). During the next year when political conflicts arose between the Dollfuss government and Social Democracy, Schaerf was arrested and lost his civil service status. He went into the practice of law

*) The above is a reprint from a recent article by Karl Czernetz, leading foreign policy expert and socialist parliamentarian; Czernetz is also a member of the Strasbourg Council of Europe.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP HONORS AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT

On the occasion of Austrian President Adolf Schaerf's 70th birthday, the Austrian Postal Administration issued a 1.5 schilling commemorative stamp with the president's portrait. The stamp reproduces a design by Adalbert Pilch as etched by Georg Wimmer. The issue of three million was engraved by the Austrian Government Printing Office. First day of issue was April 14.



and often acted as defense attorney for accused party friends.

He continued to practice law during the period of Nazi rule in spite of strict surveillance by the Gestapo who arrested him several times. Secretly, he worked with the underground resistance movement during that time.

When the Hitler regime collapsed in 1945, Dr. Schaerf became chairman of the reestablished Socialist Party and, a little later, joined the provisional government of Dr. Renner as an undersecretary of state. In the same year, he was elevated to vice chancellor of the first parliamentary government, a position which he held for 12 years. During this long term of office, he had a decisive influence on Austria's economic recovery, the continuation of coalition policies and the ideological reformation of his own party.

Dr. Schaerf knew how to transfer to the Second Republic the sympathy for Austria's Socialist Party which had been extended by several foreign nations during the era of fascism. As a result, a number of concessions were achieved during the period of the post-war occupation. Dr. Schaerf's contributions during the negotiations leading to the Austrian State Treaty in 1955 were most important.

After the death of President Theodor Koerner, Dr. Schaerf was nominated as his party's candidate for the presidency. He was elected president of Austria by direct vote on May 5, 1957. His plurality was about 100,000 votes.

Adolf Schaerf is the author of numerous political and historical treatises, including a work entitled "Oesterreichs Erneuerung 1945-1955" (Austria's Renaissance) which gives a detailed account of the events that marked the first decade of the Second Republic. Dr. Schaerf also edited several important works from Dr. Renner's literary legacy.

Since 1956 President Schaerf has been a widower. His only son was killed in World War II. His daughter Martha who was graduated from the Reinhard Seminar and worked as an actress, later studied medicine and became a doctor. She is married to a Viennese surgeon.

Dr. Schaerf is an honorary citizen of Vienna and many other Austrian communities. He has been awarded the following prizes: The Dr. Karl Renner Prize of the City of Vienna, 1955; the Erasmus Prize of the European Cultural Foundation, Netherlands (1958); and the Peace Prize of the Paul-Henri Spaak Foundation, Belgium (1959).

CARDINAL SPELLMAN TO VISIT VIENNA

Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, has accepted an invitation by Franz Cardinal Koenig, Archbishop of Vienna, to visit the Austrian capital early in August following the World Eucharistic Congress in Munich. A number of other cardinals are also expected.

AUSTRIAN EXPERT ON UN ASSIGNMENT IN MEXICO

Dr. Alfred W. Klein, formerly director of the Austrian Productivity Center in Vienna, recently left New York on a UN technical assistance assignment to Mexico. Dr. Klein, a graduate of the University of Vienna, had undertaken periodic assignments for the UN before. He first went to Mexico for the UN in 1956. He returned there in 1957 and 1959 when he conducted a seminar on economic and industrial development for government officials and industrial engineers. Last November, Dr. Klein went to Venezuela under United Nations auspices.

SUKARNO STOPS OFF IN AUSTRIA

Indonesian President Sukarno who is on a tour of Europe will spend a few days in Austria this month. Following visits to Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary, he will arrive in Vienna for an unofficial three-day stay. Sukarno had made a state visit to Austria in 1956.

WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT AUSTRIA

Austria seems to be a favorite subject in American schools. Austrian consular representatives in the United States reported recently that numerous requests from school children were received last year — and continue to be received — asking for information on Austria. Students explain that they were given the theme "Austria" and needed material. From the letters it would also seem that American youngsters no longer mistake Austria for Australia, or vice versa.

EUROPE (Continued from page 1)

events. This, too, is reason and cause for neutral Austria not to join the EEC. We take a serious view of neutrality. When we agreed to accept permanent neutrality, we knew that such a position does not bring only pleasantness. Austria cannot follow near-sighted policies for they would bear no fruit.

The threat of great economic difficulties is like talking of the devil — and he will soon appear. 25% of our exports into the nations of the EEC area is lumber. No doubt, we shall be able to continue these exports. 16% is iron and steel, and we can hardly be more discriminated against in this field than we are now. Fortunately, the conception of economic policy as it rules in our nationalized industries has led to the result that we have passed the EEC's tariff and that, generally, we are competitive. Of our exports into the EEC nations, about 60% are semi-finished and finished goods while of our exports in the EFTA states 90% are semi-finished and finished goods. Possibilities of expansion are open.

The EEC is not Europe. Europe is not the group of the "Six". Europe remains a far greater concept. We do not consider the EFTA ideal, but for us there is no other way to Europe. Whatever we can do to bridge the difficulties, we shall do.

AMBASSADOR PLATZER: AUSTRIA SUPPORTS EUROPEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

In a recent speech before the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Wilfried Platzer, Austrian Ambassador to the United States, stressed that the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), which Austria has joined, was an attempt to further liberal European and world-wide trade relations.

Dr. Platzer said that the Austrian government had always been in the forefront of "those advocating the so-called bridge between the Six and the Seven or, in other words, the solution which would consist in eliminating trade barriers . . . in both groups."

(The Six refers to the six members of the European Economic Community, the Seven to the seven members of EFTA; Ed.)

Talking about Austria's commercial policy, Dr. Platzer said that his country had always staunchly supported the idea of European integration. He declared:

"We were among the founding members of the OEEC (Organization for European Economic Cooperation) and EPU (European Payments Union), and we have fully collaborated in the dismantling of Intra-European trade and payments restrictions within the OEEC framework.

"Over 90% of our imports from the OEEC are now liberalized, i.e. they do not require any import or payments license."

The Ambassador explained that with the strengthening of the Austrian economy and the spectacular improvement in Austria's payments balance, it became possible to eliminate many trade and payments controls with the dollar area as well.

Thus, Dr. Platzer said, "in the sector of raw materials and industrial products, over 90% of the imports from the United States can be carried out without any license, and there is practically no longer any discrimination against U. S. goods."

Matters were different in the agricultural sector, the Austrian Ambassador said: there "we had to put limits on imports of rye, barley, corn and wheat, as Austrian agriculture because of unfavorable topographic conditions cannot compete fully with the large exporters of these products." However, Platzer added, even under the system of import quotas, the United States has been Austria's largest supplier since the end of World War II.

By adopting a system rather similar to that used by Germany and Switzerland, namely state trading for these products, Austria "will soon get rid of the only important remaining trade discrimination against the United States, and will thus have fulfilled a desire frequently expressed by the United States authority."

Concluding his speech, Dr. Platzer said:

"In this connection, I would like to add that our membership in the Seven by no means implies that we consider our relations with the United States of less importance. On the contrary, the opening up of a wider market for Austrian products in Europe will in our opinion also lead to increased trade relations with the outside world. Last not least, this

should provide interesting opportunities for American investment in Europe, and my country is certainly one of those which have an open door for foreign enterprise and capital, and which grant equal and fair treatment to all companies, whether domestic or foreign."

ECONOMIC NOTES

THE AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH noted in its most recent report that the upward trend in the state of Austria's economy has continued past the first quarter of 1960 and that the curve is still on a steady upswing. Personal incomes and purchasing power have increased and industrial production and export trade have gained. The report said good use of existing capacities in industrial production stimulated private investment and that steadily gaining foreign demands furthered exports. At the same time, domestic consumption increased notably.

The report also noted that the generally good international economic situation has resulted in increased orders and lengthened delivery terms for Western production. Some of the new business is inevitably switching to Austrian firms which are still able to make deliveries at a shorter time than some other Western concerns.

As far as Austria is concerned, this trend is expected to offset any adverse economic effects after the middle of the current year when 20% tariff cuts and higher quotas become applicable to the seven nations of the European Free Trade Association, of which Austria is one.

On the other hand, it would be fallacious to think that no structural problems are part and parcel of Austria's adaptation to European economic integration, the Institute warned. A number of finished-goods industries are still largely protected against competition from abroad by high tariffs and import restrictions. Initially, not too many bad effects are feared from the changeover, but as quotas expand and duties decrease foreign competition will be felt more intensely.

Recent analyses show unanimously that the Austrian economy will continue to avoid violent changes either up or down. An OEEC report expressed the belief that Austria will enjoy a balanced economic development throughout 1960.

Expanding foreign exchange reserves, a high rate of bank liquidity and sound loan policies promise Austria a continuing state of economic prosperity, the report concluded.

UNITED AUSTRIAN STEEL (VOeEST) in collaboration with the West German firms of Krupp, Essen, and Gutehoffnungshütte, Oberhausen, will build a steel plant in Altos Hornos, near Bilbao, Spain. The plant is to start operations sometime in 1962 with an initial annual capacity of between 350,000 and 400,000 tons and an expected maximum capacity of 750,000 tons.

VOeEST also delivered structural steel for the Dokan Dam in Iraq as well as steel materials for the construction of a 14-story steel structure for the Rafidain Bank in Bagdad.

SIMMERING-GRAZ-PAUKER CORP. completed construction of two large shunting locomotives destined for the Soviet

Union in the record time of 9½ months. The engines are of a special type, Diesel-driven with six driving wheels. They have the capacity of pulling 4,000 tons of freight cars. Further locomotive orders are expected from the Soviet Union.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS 1959

	(in million schillings)		(in million dollars)	
	1959	1958	1959	1958
I. Current Account.				
A. Balance of Trade Account	-3,681	-2,877	-141.57	-110.65
B. Balance of Services Acc't.	+4,914	+4,330	+188.99	+166.53
Surplus on Current Account	+1,233	+1,453	+ 47.42	+ 55.88
II. Surplus on Capital Account	+ 195	+3,082	+ 7.48	+118.53
III. Result of unrequited payments relating to the State Treaty	-1,005	-1,171	- 38.65	- 45.05
IV. Miscellaneous (differences)	+ 326	+ 852	+ 12.54	+ 32.80
Surplus on Balance of Payments (added to currency reserves)	+ 749	+4,216	+ 28.79	+162.16

(About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.)

WORLD BANK CONFERENCE IN VIENNA?

The Austrian cabinet decided recently to send an Austrian delegation to the 13th World Health Conference in Geneva. The meeting starts May 3. The cabinet also authorized the finance minister to invite the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the International Finance Corporation to hold their next annual meeting — September 13 to 22, 1961 — in Vienna. The Austrian cabinet which met under the chairmanship of Chancellor Julius Raab also decided to send a delegation to the 15th annual conference of the European Economic Commission, a body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. This meeting is scheduled in Geneva, April 20 to May 6, 1960.

HOURLY PAY 40% HIGHER THAN IN 1937

Actual pay of Viennese workers has risen by 40% between 1937 and 1959, the Austrian Institute for Economic Research said in a recent report.

The development of average hourly pay has been weighed by approved statistical methods, the Institute said. It was done by a comparison of the index of workers' pay with that of living costs (consumer prices). The comparison of the index of workers' pay with that of living costs (consumer prices). The comparison of the two indices showed that the average gross hourly pay of Viennese workers rose considerably more than the cost of living in workers' households (consumer prices and services) in the years from 1937 to 1959.

The report pointed out that in no case did the consumer index rise higher than the workers' pay.

Higher actual pay resulted in a change in the spending habits in workers' households. The workers' share in purchasing foodstuffs decreased from 48.5% in 1935 to 34.5% in 1958. On the other hand, their share in buying non-essential merchandise rose considerably.

PRESS COMMENT

CONFIDENCE IN THE WESTERN FUTURE *

We hear much doleful talk these days about how we are lagging behind the Soviet Union in this or that, especially in missiles and annual increases in economic productivity. Mr. Khrushchev encourages this disposition among Americans to sell the United States short and is, in fact, the originator of most of the propaganda that Russia is going to "overtake" and then "surpass" and finally "bury" this country.

In view of the faintheartedness of a great many critics who ought to know better and be devoting their energies to speaking up for liberty instead of belaboring its lack of "dynamism," we find some satisfaction in the fact that our system is not without defenders.

For example, Dr. Bruno Kreisky, the foreign minister of Austria, which is now a permanently neutralized country, recently went into communist Poland which is under the Kremlin thumb, and there made a public speech which tartly examined some of the favorite communist theses, among them "competitive coexistence."

Dr. Kreisky said that communist ideas about the exploitation of workers in western nations were fanciful, and that Khrushchev's predictions that the Soviet Union would pass the United States in production overlooked the fact that western production was not going to stand still. Thus, said Dr. Kreisky, Khrushchev's statements were primarily intended to whip up soviet performance and need not occasion much concern in western countries.

In fact, the Austrian statesman said, production figures in themselves were not very important. The way in which the west would overcome any possible crisis was of much more importance, and that way was not the way of communism, for the mainsprings of western action were different from soviet motives.

"In the world from which I come," he said, "moral powers are given great and society building importance. The fact must not be overlooked that for millions religious motives make them render acts of assistance and perform acts of assistance and perform acts of human decency. This is a moral principle which many would expect only from a future order. All the powers operating within our society fill us with confidence that democracy will be able to exist successfully in the great conflict of competing coexistence.

Dr. Kreisky thus emphasized a few facts which western calamity howlers tend to overlook — that western civilization rests on religious and spiritual values which are entirely lacking in the communist world, and that western countries can have economic progress together with liberty and decency, which are conditions and impulses lacking in the communist robot state.

"Some believe," he said, "that above all it will be the distribution of material wealth which will prepare the new forms of human coexistence. Others believe, and I am one of them, that it will be the realization of the idea of liberty in all fields of human endeavor. You will understand the great

*) From the Chicago Tribune, March 29, 1960.

impression these words of Bernedetto Croce made upon me. Asked whether liberty would prevail in the future, he replied, Even better — it will prevail in eternity.' ”

More than courage was required for the spokesman of a small and unarmed country to address these words to a communist audience. It took unbounded confidence and faith in the enduring value of liberty in the western tradition. It is not we who must worry about being overtaken by the Communists in any sphere that counts. It is they, with their retarded scale of values, who must strive to catch up with us in fulfillment of the great spiritual need for liberty, humanity, and faith in eternal things.

SEVENTY YEARS OF SOWING, FIFTEEN YEARS OF REAPING

The following is an abbreviated version of a recent editorial of the Vienna Arbeiter-Zeitung:

In the near future the final compensation shipments will leave for Russia. On the fifth anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty, Austria will be completely and unconditionally free. That is cause to celebrate. Austria will experience that day during a period of progress, and of economic recovery.

Austria has used well these five years of freedom and sovereignty. The rowboat with the four elephants — as President Renner once referred to tiny Austria when still occupied by the four big powers — has turned into a splendid ship, a ship which as of now lists no longer. Vienna, once the four-zone city in which the world powers tried to hold each other in hostile balance, today is a center of international congresses and meetings, the seat of the International Atom Organization of the United Nations, and a place of peaceful and friendly trade.

Austria's economy which a few years ago was still dependent upon foreign assistance, today enjoys great reputation in the world and is even able to participate in the great world-wide task of assisting the less developed continents. Five years ago when Austria was mentioned the world might well have thought of the “third man.” Today the thought connected with any mention of Austria might be LD steel. That is truly cause to celebrate.

Of course, we would have no opportunity to celebrate this anniversary, had not a still greater change occurred in our country 10 years earlier. That year, 15 years ago, was the year zero for Austria.

In this upheaval of 1945, Austria was — partially — a passive object of history: it was freed by foreign armies and occupied by foreign armies; it had no say in what happened to it. We must acknowledge that the most important thing — liberation from the yoke of National Socialism — was given our country by the major powers jointly; we shall remember that the most important contribution toward further development — economic assistance — was given us by one of the liberating nations.

On the other hand, Austria participated actively in this upheaval, and thus also was a subject of history: the people who had just survived murderous fratricide . . . went the road of cooperation.

The celebrations planned in the next few weeks for the multiple anniversaries will be climaxed in the great May demonstration in the Vienna Ring. (This editorial appeared late in April. Ed.) And there a still more impressive jubilee will be celebrated: it will mark the 70th May march, the 70th demonstration of the working people for right, liberty and social progress. The coincidence of these jubilees is no accident: From the spring day in 1890 when working people first went down to the Prater, a straight line leads to the spring of 1945, the spring of 1955, and the spring of 1960.

On that first May Day, a seed was sown which, though pushed into the ground by soldiers' boots, began to cover broader acres and now bears fruit for our generation. The people who demonstrated then were full of faith and confidence. They hoped for an almost revolutionary change . . .

To us, it is no accident that in this month of jubilees we can celebrate the 70th birthday of the head of our nation. The man who today represents Austria and the United will of its people has indeed become a part of living Austrian history — the history of the labor movement and the history of the Republic. Dr. Adolf Schaerf has accompanied the labor movement in all the light and all the dark days from generation to generation.

With the other anniversaries of this month Dr. Schaerf's person is intimately connected: he was the most courageous, most far-sighted, most statesmanlike representative of our country at the negotiations on the State Treaty. Austria owes him a debt of gratitude for the fact that today — on the fifth anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty — we have fulfilled all our obligations.

USING THE PHONE CAN BE FUNNY

The Vienna Telephone Co. can't be outdone when it comes to canned services. Of course, its more conservative service isn't bad, either. But how can you beat a joke? You can't. Just dial 1717 (that is, if you're in Vienna, and a record will spin the joke of the day for you. Guaranteed new jokes every day — and don't tell Milton Berle. The joke service is Vienna's newest telephony idea. Others now in operation including a daily cooking recipe, the correct A for tuning your fiddle to proper concert pitch, and 26 other such utilities.

HUNGARY OBJECTS TO AUSTRIAN STAMP HONORING REFUGEE YEAR

The Austrian Postal Administration recently issued a three-shilling stamp honoring World Refugee Year. Scores of other nations did the same thing upon invitation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Austria's stamp (see page 8) showing a number of refugees plodding along. Now Hungary's postal authorities have notified the Austrian Postal Administration that it will refuse any Austrian mail addressed to Hungary if it is franked with copies of the Refugee stamp.

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

may be quoted freely.

Source need not be given.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING:

"DER ANSCHLUSS IST TOT"

by Adolf Schaerf

On a morning in the early summer of the year 1943, an unidentified man came into my office. Without much ado he asked whether I had ever in my life been the secretary of the Social Democratic national parliamentary party and whether I had not also been at one time the secretary of Seitz. *) I answered in the affirmative; then my visitor gave his name — Wilhelm Leuschner. Before Hitler came into power, he had been Social Democratic interior minister of Hessen and had been chosen to take over on May 1, 1933, the central secretariat of Germany's trade unions. Of course, it was self-evident that everyone to whom an unknown introduced himself as a political friend tried to find out whether the information given was correct. (Dr. Schaerf made inquiries about Leuschner and was satisfied with the result. Editor). Thus I was certain that an important man of the German Social Democrats faced me. **)

After we had agreed on the necessary precautions in case

*) Karl Seitz, former President of Austria, Vice President of Parliament and onetime Social Democratic Mayor of Vienna.

**) Leuschner took an active part in the July, 1944 rising against Hitler; he was executed by the Nazis.

of an official interruption of our meeting, he disclosed to me that an end of the Hitler regime might be safely expected in Germany in the fall of 1943. Representatives of several parties were already agreed on the formation of a new Reich government with the assistance of the military. In this new government Goerdeler would be chancellor and he (Leuschner) vice chancellor. From within the concentration camp Dr. Schuschnigg, through his wife, was in contact with the group, and through him his (Leuschner's) attention had been drawn to several men of different party affiliation in Vienna. Now he had come to Austria to obtain the cooperation of Social Democratic and conservative leaders. If Austria would take its place decisively on the side of the German revolution, it could be confidently expected that in an eventual peace treaty the "Anschluss" of Austria would be retained. He came to me in order to discuss agreements about the participation of the Austrian Social Democracy regarding the retention of the Anschluss.

This discussion took place in the early summer of the year 1943; until that time the German-language radio broad-

"Der Anschluss ist tot" (Anschluss is dead) is a brief chapter from the memoirs of President Adolf Schaerf, published by the *Wiener Volksbuchhandlung* 1955, under the title "*Oesterreichs Erneuerung*" (Austria's Renaissance).

The significance of the encounter this chapter recalls can be assessed only in the light of historical fact: Union or, rather, fusion with the Weimar Republic of Germany was one of the tenets of Austrian Social Democrats ever since the collapse of the Habsburg monarchy in 1918. Austria — or German Austria (*Deutschösterreich*) as it was then called — was then considered the fallen Danubian empire's severed head which could not survive unless joined again with some larger, viable body.

Of course, in 1933, at their last party congress, the Social Democrats officially denounced *Anschluss*: Hitler had come to power in Germany, and union with the Third Reich was rejected by Austria's leading political parties. (The Nazis never elected a single deputy to parliament between 1919 and 1930 when the last free (pre-Second Republic general elections were held; and their share in subsequent local elections — between 1930 and 1933 — was always less than 20%).

During the last few days before Anschluss, the Social Democrats, who had been driven underground in February 1934, were allowed to emerge and to join forces with Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg's Fatherland Front in a final desperate attempt to stem the tide. Yet, once Anschluss had become an accomplished fact, many people considered it — in itself — an element of historic progress which would outlast the Nazi dictatorship.

However, under the pressures generated by the "shotgun marriage" of 1938 and by the German war machine, Austrians became increasingly conscious of their separate identity. Often enough, this was a painful process which, in the case of Dr. Schaerf, suddenly and explosively came to a head in his talk with Wilhelm Leuschner.

Today, *Anschluss* is dead, indeed. If proof were needed that Austro-German relations are now free of the corrosive emotional stresses which are recounted in the memoirs of Austria's leading statesman, the excellent rapport between Vienna and Bonn could supply it. (Editor)

casts of the Allied powers had said nothing of the reestablishment of a free Austria. The Moscow Declaration, proclaimed an independent Austria as an Allied war-aim, was published only on November 1, 1943. The idea that the Anschluss — which had been recognized *de facto* by most European states and *de jure* by some — should be revoked was thus at the time something new and unusual. On the contrary, it seemed obvious that the big powers did not particularly concern themselves with the question of whether the former political state of Austria should or should not be reestablished.

Leuschner now developed his ideas in detail. Our talk lasted about three hours. I felt transposed from the present into the future — so gripping was his presentation. I would not conceal it even today: ever since I had learned to know and to love the intellectual treasures of the German people, I too dreamed that my spiritual home was not Austria, but Weimar. But during this conversation it came to me like a flash: just this presentation of the situation by Leuschner made me realize what had changed.

I interrupted my visitor abruptly and said: "Der Anschluss ist tot." ("Anschluss is dead.") Love for the German Reich has been driven out of the Austrians. Personally and professionally, I know many a woman and many a man who came to us from Germany and whom I learned to like and to respect, but I can envision the day on which the Reich Germans will be driven out of Austria."

While I spoke these words, I had the feeling that it was not I, that it was not my voice that spoke, but another man, another voice from within me.

Leuschner was astonished and shocked. He told me he had talked with other men in Vienna, but that no one but I had transmitted to him such an impression of the prevailing mood in Austria. When I had retained my composure, I could not immediately comprehend how I had arrived at this reply. But I persisted in my answer and stated that my political friends could only help to do away with the Hitler-regime, but would have nothing to do with preserving the Anschluss. Leuschner was clearly disappointed.

I then speedily informed my friends all over Austria — among them Seitz, who had spoken with Leuschner before I did, and Dr. Renner *** — of the talk, and in the time that followed all of us slowly came to the view which had first escaped my lips in my meeting with Leuschner. Then, in November, 1943, came the Moscow Declaration about the reestablishment of a free Austria; it confirmed our view.

As it happened, the attempted assassination of Hitler did not take place in September, 1943, but in July, 1944. When I heard on the midnight after the abortive assassination that Seitz was missing I immediately connected this with our discussions with and about Leuschner; I had a foreboding that the jail gates would also soon close soon behind me....

***) Dr. Karl Renner, co-founder of the First, founder and first President of the Second Republic. Between World War I and World War II, Renner and Otto Bauer were the outstanding leaders of Austrian Social Democracy.

SCIENCE AND THE ARTS

BETTI RICHARD WINS JOHN GREGORY AWARD

Mrs. Franz Matsch who is known in the art world as Betti Richard is this year's recipient of the John Gregory Award given May 10 by the National Sculpture Society "for a work executed in the great tradition of classic sculpture."



The competition was open to sculptors under 45 years of age, and selection was made from photographs of work completed within the last 10 years. Among the photographs submitted by Mrs. Matsch was one depicting the bronze St. Francis which is in the 32nd Street entrance of the Church of St. Francis of Assisi in New York.

The National Sculpture Society maintains the highest professional standards. Its competitions include works by sculptors throughout the United States.

NEW YORK MEMORIAL CONCERT FOR WOLF, MAHLER AND WEIGL.

The Cultural Department of the Austrian Consulate General in New York recently lent its auspices to an impressive concert dedicated to the memories of Hugo Wolf, Gustav Mahler and Karl Weigl. The event took place in the Carnegie Recital Hall. Dr. Fritz Kramer delivered a short address in which he pointed out how important the three Austrian composers had become in American musical life.

Among the artists were Laszlo Varga, first cellist of the New York Philharmonic, and pianist Robert Starer who played Weigl's Viola Sonata; Ethel Erdos and Dorothy Renzi who sang four lieder groups by Wolf and Mahler; and Roald Reitan, a young, new Metropolitan Opera baritone who sang several Weigl songs, accompanied at the piano by the composer's widow, Vally Weigl.

DISNEY PRODUCES BEETHOVEN FILM IN VIENNA

Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse, recently ar-

rived in Vienna on an Austrian Airlines plane from London to start production there on his newest screen vehicle, a film on the life of Ludwig van Beethoven, tentatively title "The Magnificent Rebel."

Disney who is justly famous not only for his animated cartoon pictures but also for a number of serious films has engaged Georg Tressler as the director of the film which will depict a number of important episodes from the great composer's life. Karlheinz Boehm will play the role of Beethoven. Other parts have been given to Ivan Desney, Erik Frey and Bruno Dallansky.

The film will be shot in the Rosenhugel studios as well as in a number of places which were connected with Beethoven, especially the Beethoven House in Heiligenstadt.

The picture is to be synchronized in English and probably will have its premiere in the United States. Producer Disney would not say whether it will first be shown on television or in a theater.

NINTH ARTUR SCHNABEL MEMORIAL CONCERT TO BE HELD MAY 19

The Artur Schnabel Memorial Committee has just entered the ninth year of its existence with the announcement of this year's Memorial Concert to be held on May 19 at the Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Rudolf Serkin will play Beethoven's monumental "Diabelli" Variations in memory of Schnabel who regarded this work

as the greatest achievement in the literature of the piano. In addition Schnabel's own String Trio will be played by members of the Galimir Quartet whose recording of this work (along with Schnabel's "Duodecimet") has just been released by Columbia Records. Haydn's String Quartet in C, opus 20, No. 2 will also be performed.

AUSTRIA ISSUES STAMP MARKING "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR 1959-60"

The Federal Republic of Austria has issued a new stamp, marking "WORLD REFUGEE YEAR 1959-60", which went on sale on April 4th. The green and blue 3 schilling stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch and shows a family fleeing across the border into Austria.



The number of refugees on Austrian territory is 67,000 at present, of whom 17,000 are still living in refugee camps. The Federal Republic of Austria is making every effort to clear the camps and to provide also relief for refugees in other countries. To complete the task, hundreds of millions of Austrian schillings will have to be raised, in addition to the approximately \$140,000,000 Austria has contributed to refugee care so far.

The President of the Federal Republic of Austria, Dr. Adolf Schaerf, has assumed the patronage of the Austrian Committee for the World Refugee Year.

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